

SB 375

Thank you for your efforts to address "dark money" which is pouring into our elections in Montana and around the country.

However, please amend SB 375 and preserve our campaign spending limits.

When 75% of Montanans voted for Initiative 166, they voted to limit political spending in elections.

I am asking that you support this initiative, and keep in place the limits that we have.

Those of us who worked to pass I-166 spoke with Montanans from all persuasions. From every angle, when you looked at what was happening to our elections, people said, stop the money from pouring in. Keep Montana protected.

As time goes by, each election that follows behind the 2010 Citizen's United decision will find our State and our country changed. Our Legislatures and our Congress will be more and more vulnerable. Many of you who stand up now, will find yourselves unseated. There will be more and more voter suppression, and more and more cookie cutter bills.

Montana needs to keep putting campaign finance bills in place every year, so that the moneyed few who would shred our defenses will always find limits in place. We need to keep building the ramparts to protect our State, not lowering our standards and opening the gates to the floods of money.

When we compare Montana's campaign finance laws, they were some of the best in the country. We're standing on the shoulders of people who saw what happens when outside interests have their way and drown out the voices of the people who live and work here.

Thank you.

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